

Charles City
Oct 14th

My dear Husband.

Get thee to the
country is the best advice
I can offer you It is a
blazing glory. Lizzy & I
sketched this morning
& hope to finish the ones
~~to-morrow~~ This afternoon
we had a lovely drive
over to Mr Cooks farm
we made two calls
& on the way home
picked up Lizzy & mine
letters for me which
made a pleasant ending
to a delightful day.
What a pleasant ^{evening} given
all drew for me of the
group in the back parlor

thoroughly remembering
the Hamlets.

I am so glad that Mama
is better & Annie making
you all comfortable.

The thermometer has
been 85 in the shade
today. Poor Tyley is longing
for cold wet weather
for his start tomorrow.
I told him I sincerely
hoped he would enjoy
his trip, but that was as
far as ~~he~~ I could go, to
wish for cold rain when
the golden glory of the
autumn wood was
waiting to be sketched
was asking too much of
human nature.

I am glad the Capt
enjoyed Hamlet so well.

Never mind about the
brass band you can
receive me with it
when I return.

Why didn't you name the
Astoria man ^{up} Lydie
might know him?
How does the little bronze
Pompey get along? give
me a bill of fare some
day. You must not
wonder if my letters are
short as there is so little
to tell you of here & so
much I want to know about
things at home. Cousin
Mary has put off her
dressmaker & is determined
to keep out all that is
possible while the fine
weather lasts. I do not
like the look of dear little
Pompey. He is as thin as a lath.

and more interesting
than ever. It seems to me
that his seasoning powers
are abnormally developed
at the expense of his
physical strength.

I should tremble if he were
arrived. Arthur is growing
a handsomer. Had you
would be surprised to see
him. I must write to
Anna & Annie & Carrie
so will close. I have
been having quite an
aggravating rheumatic
pain in my ankle
which come & goes,
sometimes make me
limp. Love to Mellen

Ever your devoted
Joan.

Charles City
Oct 18th

My dear Ernest.

Your letter of
Thursday came yesterday.
I thought Gracius must
be delayed by some
other means than his,
when Lizzie came alone
Saturday. I can hardly
see to write it is so
dark this morning,
foggy & threatening rain.
I have decided to
come home ^{Thursday}
will leave here Wednesday
noon but whether to
take the N & S, or P. & C.
I have not yet decided,
or as to stopping on the
road, but I clearly see
that the stopping won't
be so funny, when my darling

are the other side of the
journey. The engine won't
would be the s.t. but I
don't want to go clear
down town. I want the
dear little faces waiting
for me close to home,
so it won't take me
long to reach the old
place when I leave the
train. I spent a very
pleasant Sunday
yesterday, the Bishop
here to tea, & twice to
church. I am so glad
Mamma keeps better
but fear you wouldn't like
it ^{more} if the house were
down. I have found a
lighter place & think I
can do better. So sorry about
Phil & Ed. I expect they are
worrying you. I hope the stock
are rising high enough to pay
the family postage.

Charles City
Oct 19th

My dear Ones.

Only time for one letter this morning, so will address you collectively. We managed to rise late this morning, as Cousin took advantage of my absence yesterday, & called on the neighbors to spend the evening, to the tune of Coffee Cake & fruit, in consequence of which dissipation we were all sleepy this morning. I shall take the 10th day train from here & reach home on Thursday.

morning by seven, or
thereabouts which
will enable Ann
to have a good outing
which I am sure she
must need.

(Don't come up to Boston
Are too early my
darlings, as I don't want
you to be waiting long,
the train is advertised
to be in Chicago by 7.10
that is the Defeat I
suppose, & if you are
up there by five minutes
to seven I think you
will but it just right
& only have a minute
or so if any to wait.
The horses were so

inconvenience that
I found I must
take the night journey
from Friday letters
came yesterday, & the
Saturday ones were due
but I suppose will
reach here today.

Arthur rushed off
to school yesterday as
I was writing to Mrs,
& I was obliged to quit
& scramble it into the
envelope just before
I hope she could read
it though I think it
was doubtful.

I was never shorter
of time in my life.
I can't get on half I would
like to there is half a day

painting, & singing & all
which are progressing
walking & talking.
besides fractions & other
studies, in a little over
stay, but it felt so bright
& ambitious I could do
anything, and I think
am so happy here.

I am coming home
to be loved by my darling.

The streets & fields are
arriving in abundance.
Tyler reports \$40 as the
result of our stay, & says
& they are good & fine.
tell you. Now good by
my loves, I wonder what
I shall write to you again.
The letters have been very
sweet, one of the greatest
of my life. Yours devotedly
Papa Carme, & the childrens Mother.